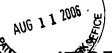
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REQUES



CONTINUED EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/950,020
Filing Date	September 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	YASUHIRO HINO
Group Art Unit	2176
Examiner Name	Rachna Singh
Attorney Docket Number	03500.015774.

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 LX. Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 13, 2006 i. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _ ii. iii. Enclosed Amendment/Reply i. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) ij. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iii. Other Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other Applicant petitions for an additional one-month extension of time. A check for \$330.00 in payment of the extension fee is enclosed. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. Fees The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. _____06-1205 08/14/2006 HALI11 00000003 09950020 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 330.00 OP Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1252 ii Other iii. Checks in the amount of \$ 790.00 and 330.00 are enclosed. lx_ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED 44 063 Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) Raymond A. DiPema Name (Print/Type) August 10, 2006 Date Signature CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Registration No.: Name (Print/Type) Date Signature Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any

comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. 98989992 99959929

08/14/2006 HALI11